

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 1-30 are pending in this application, including independent claims 1 and 22. Independent claim 1, for instance, is directed to a method for reducing odor that includes forming a coordination complex between a transition metal and a polydentate compound, wherein the polydentate compound is a polyalkylimine, and contacting the coordination complex with an odorous compound, the transition metal providing one or more active sites for capturing the odorous compound. Claims 31-60 have been withdrawn in response to an earlier Restriction Requirement.

Claims 1-3, 5, 8-11, 13, and 17-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Stoddard et al. (EP 1214878). Without commenting on the propriety of the previous rejection, independent claim 1 has now been amended to include that the polydentate compound is a polyalkylimine. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that Stoddard et al. does not teach or suggest all of the limitations of the presently pending claims. As such, the presently pending claims are believed to patentably define over Stoddard et al.

Claims 1-12, 17-26, 29, and 30 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Forestier et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,001,342*) in view of Stoddard et al. (EP 1214878) and Sebag et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,275,054). In the Office Action, it was stated that Forestier et al. describes a deodorant composition comprising at least one

* Applicants believe that due to a typographical error, the Office Action mistakenly identifies the Forestier et al. reference as being U.S. Patent No. 5,547,676.

dendrimer bearing a primary amine group and that such deodorant compositions can also contain active agents such as zinc salts. Nonetheless, it is respectfully submitted that Forestier et al. does not describe forming a coordination complex between a transition metal and a polydentate compound as required by the presently pending claims.

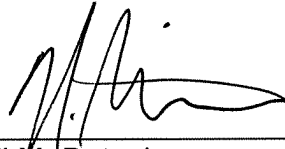
Forestier et al. indicates that dendrimers can be selected from polyethyleneimines and polypropyleneimines. However, Forestier et al. does not disclose that such dendrimers can form a coordination complex with transition metals. Forestier et al. explicitly teaches away from formation of such a coordination complex by stating that the amine functions in the dendrimer are preferably neutralized “for better tolerance by the skin” and also for “better efficacy for inhibiting the development of odors.” Col. 4, lines 5-9. While, water-soluble zinc salts are described as one potential standard deodorant active agent, nowhere does Forestier et al. describe forming a coordination complex between such standard deodorant active agents and the dendrimers described. Indeed, the deodorant active agents are described as being utilized in addition to the dendrimers. Col. 4, lines 19-22. As such, it is respectfully submitted that Forestier et al. does not teach or suggest forming a coordination complex between a transition metal and a polydentate compound as required by the presently pending claims. Neither Stoddart et al. or Sebag et al. correct the deficiencies of Forestier et al. Therefore, the presently pending claims are believed to patentably define over the cited references.

Claims 1, 13-16, 27, 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Forestier et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,001,342) in view of Stoddart et al.

(EP 1214878) and Connolly (U.S. Patent No. 5,120,693). However, Conolly does not correct the deficiencies of Forestier et al. or Stoddart et al. that are discussed in more detail above. As such, it is believed that the presently pending claims patentably define over the cited references.

For at least the reasons discussed above, Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in complete condition for allowance, and favorable action, therefore, is respectfully requested. Should any issues remain after consideration of this amendment, then Examiner Arnold is invited and encouraged to telephone the undersigned at his convenience.

Respectfully submitted,



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